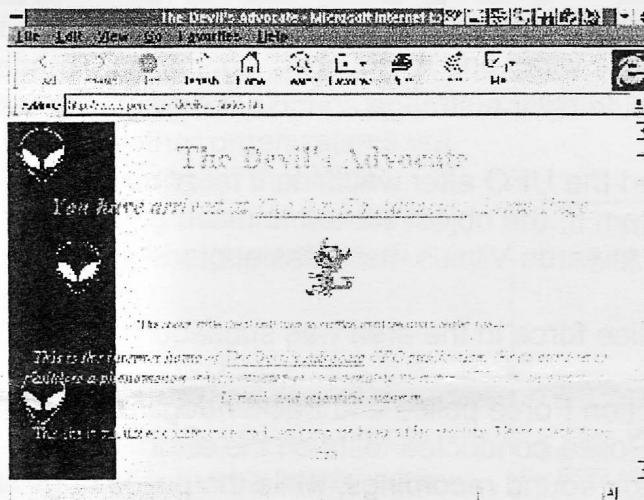


# The Devil's Advocate

*Here at The Devil's Advocate we feel obligated to voice views that many people would consider to be in opposition to the majority opinion. We don't claim to be right all the time; Our purpose is just to make you think. We believe that there is a genuine UFO phenomenon, but we also feel that we must examine every side of the story, to keep ourselves open minded, objective, logical, and on our toes.*



Now that we have finished this, the seventh issue of D.A (yes, *finally*), we would like to announce a new addition to what we do.

We now have a site located on the World Wide Web. And because we aren't about to pay someone else to design a web site for a publication which we already end up supporting largely out of our own pocket, we have personally done the designing. You can find it located at <http://www.pen.net/~devilsad/index.htm>

Also note that **our new Email address is [devilsad@pen.net](mailto:devilsad@pen.net)**

The web site is of course still under construction, but already features some articles from past issues, and links to other web sites which we find most useful, informative, and entertaining. We hope you will find the content useful, and not a mere attempt to dredge up more sales or pull in more money as you may have noticed *some* UFO organizations and publications are apt to do. The web site is likely to become more and more of a focus in what we do. By publishing on the internet we can reach more people than we can by paying for expensive advertisements in which we request money for a sample issue. And with time being more and more of a constraint, the web site can be updated quickly and easily. For example, Brian Boldman's article which appears in this issue, was placed on the web site weeks before we were able to lay out this issue, make copies, and circulate.

Please let us know our opinion of the web site, how we could improve it, and what you would like to see on it.

**SIGHTING IN LITHUANIA**

The following is an article taken from the *Saudi Gazette* (6-27-1996). It details an extremely interesting case which was mentioned briefly on CNN. To our knowledge, this case is not being researched by any UFO investigator, many of whom seem to be currently focusing much of their attention on a strange tale of another alleged UFO crash and sightings of alien beings in Brazil.

"An unidentified flying object was sighted by two Lithuanian policemen near their capital Vilnius, putting the city's entire force on alert, Russian news agency Itar-Tas said today.

The policemen say they saw a round, shining object on the main Vilnius-Miadininkai route, at half past midnight 10 km from the capital city near the village of Nemejis, which was flashing and hovered 20 to 30 meters above the ground.

'At the same time, you could hear a strange sound - like electricity cracking,' they said.

The policemen approached the UFO after watching it for almost half an hour. When they were some fifty meters from it, the object started to move upwards and away from them into the air, then accelerated towards Vilnius, Itar-Tass quoted the policemen as saying.

The entire Lithuanian police force in the area was subsequently put on alert.

Van loads of Rapid Reaction Force police and tracker dogs arrived on the scene, but the UFO had dissappeared. Police conducted tests on the area's ground composition, measured the air's radiation, and took sound recordings, while the police dogs remained unstirred by anything.

The grass in the area for about 10 meters around where the UFO was sighted was visably flattened.

Vilnius police chief Valentinas Loukhniavitchous announced on the Lithuanian Radio today that the two policemen who had made the sighting were of sound and honest mind."

**Subscriptions to The Devil's Advocate** are \$10 (\$20 foreign) for 4 issues (approx. 1 year) Single issues are \$2.50 each. **Please make checks payable to Tim Brigham.**

## **D.A. FOLLOW UP: THE STATUS OF UFO RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS**

In our last issue, we presented a copy of a list of suggested improvements to the organization MUFON, and voiced our disapproval that the sightings database and researched cases were not open to examination by qualified investigators. We heard no

immediate reponse from MUFON, but a follow up letter to Walt Andrus did gain the response that "Your proposal was submitted to the MUFON board of directors for their consideration on July 8, 1996." Andrus went on to say that when a decision on how to distribute the data was made, it would be announced in the MUFON Journal, but no date or estimate as to when this would happen was given.

We sincerely hope that the MUFON database is put to use and that qualified persons are allowed access to it in the future. Until this happens *D.A. suggests that investigators and researchers who would like to contribute to, and be allowed access to, UFO information now examine alternative organizations.*

One such organization is the International Society for UFO Research. We have spoken to and corresponded with some of the organizers of this group, and they seem to have some great plans. *All cases which are researched by ISUR investigators are immediately added to their computerized database, which is available on the internet and can be accessed by anyone.* Information regarding sightings, abductions, and entity sightings are all added to the database as they are investigated. ISUR is doing the common sense thing by giving out UFO information, and hopefully other organizations will follow suit, but until they do, we suggest that ISUR might be the more constructive organization to interact with and to contribute data to. We suggest that you check them out at [www.isur.com](http://www.isur.com)

There are several other alternative organizations like ISUR which take a more open and active approach to research. Most of them operate on the internet [this internet idea seems to almost be a theme in this issue, doesn't it?]. With web sites, the organizations can reach tens of thousands of people, more easily gain new information, and distribute the data they have collected, and it can all be done quickly and easily. We suggest taking a look.

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### ***The Man Behind the Face***

You might not recognize Bill Barker's face if you saw him on the street, but chances are you'd recognize the alien face which has come to represent his art series Schwa. Here, Barker discusses his art, himself, and the symbolism which is Schwa.

Regular readers of D.A. have seen the artwork or "cartoons" of Bill Barker, who titles his unusual art series "Schwa," inserted in these pages numerous times. Schwa is impossible

to adequately describe, thus some of the work is reprinted here along with the interview which follows.

**Q:** Why do you have the large, bald, big-eyed alien in your book?

**Schwa:** It's a very powerful symbol that has been around since the 1950s, at least, and I like the kind of strong reactions people have to it. Even if someone doesn't believe aliens exist they quickly judge the person or item presenting that symbol as crazy or absurd. There is not much around that can get a reaction so easily. For me, any reaction to my book cover or whatever is simply another part of this entire project. I actually think it's pretty funny,

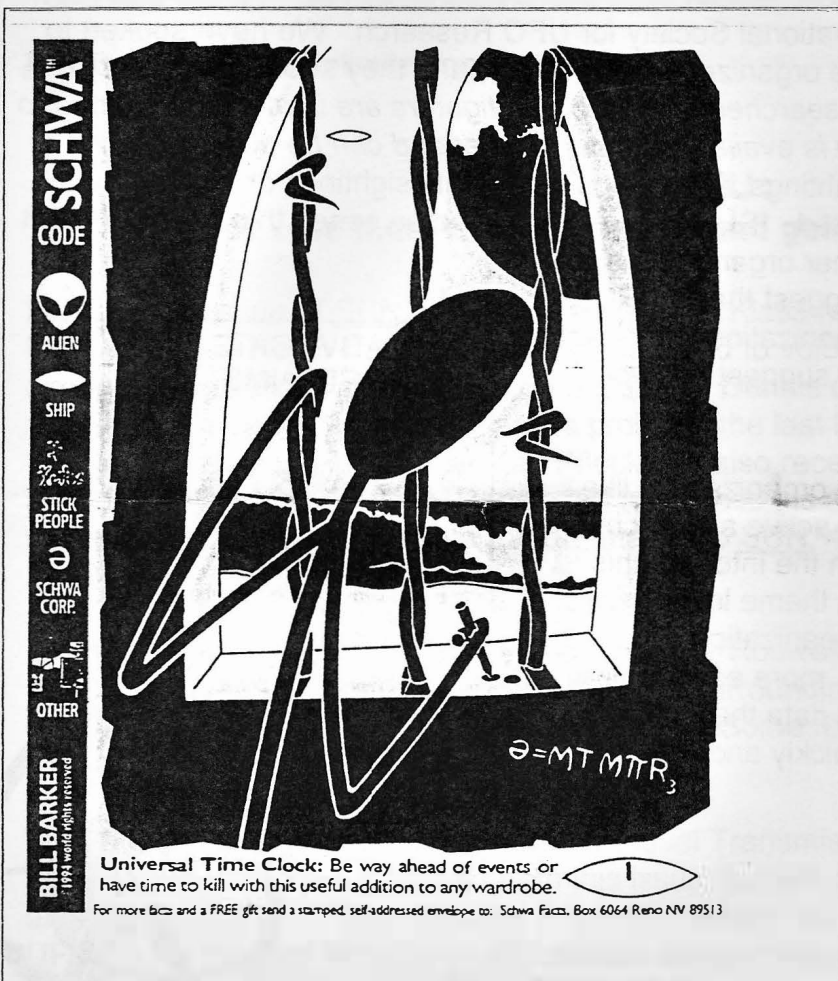
conceptually, that people would let an oddly shaped, very human face affect them so much and with so little thought as to why.

**Q:** Do you consider yourself an author or illustrator?

**Schwa:** I really don't think about that type of thing very much.

**Q:** What is the significance of calling your drawings and products "Schwa" ?

**A:** I was looking for a title that would sound interesting and somehow express the vague and confusing nature of what I wanted to do. I was looking in the dictionary for the word or words related to "schism" or "schizoid" when I happened across the word "schwa." That was basically it; I remembered it from school and thought the definition, letters and sound were perfect for what I was



doing. Kind of cute and strange-sounding at the same time, hard to remember how to spell. I didn't look any further.

**Q:** What does the indefinite vowel sound schwa have to do with "Schwa" ?

**Schwa:** "Indefinite" is the key word.

**Q:** What was your inspiration for doing this book?

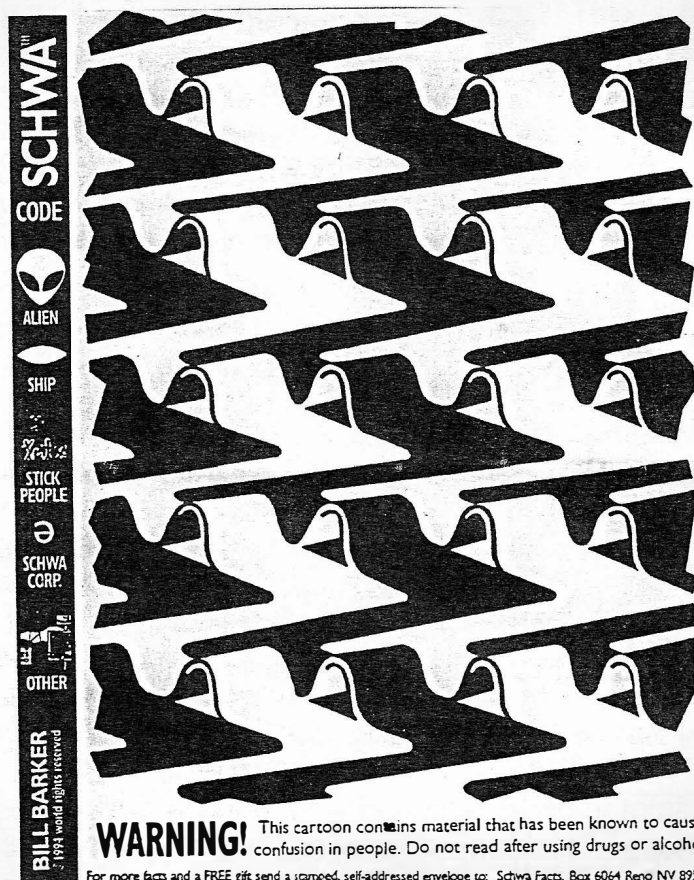
**Schwa:** In the summer of 1992, I was looking for a new project to work on when a friend gave me a copy of an article called "The Secret Government". It was someone's theory that the world has been controlled by an alien race since the 1940s and I thought what a sad and disappointing universe this would be if that were true, if that was all boiled it down to.



And somehow that article summed-up the confusing and basically unknowable world we definitely do live in!

**Q:** Do you believe in aliens?

**Schwa:** I think that the question of whether "aliens" exist or not, is, for me, irrelevant. It is fascinating to me that we have a myth, which could be true, that there are creatures in the world that behave very much like a combination of what once were called angels and devils, creatures that behave very much like us! Every society has stories of fantastic beings and aliens are, for many people today, that story.



**Q:** How long did it take you to do this book?

**Schwa:** The first set of drawings (there were only 10 or so), took a day or two. I was simply drawing my reactions to the idea that the world could be being controlled by a secret government. Friends saw these drawings and had many good comments about them and so I did 10 or 20 more and made a few bound copies. From there I could see that the subject of aliens, social control and mythical confusion could provide enough material for me to do a lot more work like this. I also began to realize that I could include my previous art of imaginary products, keychains and other things like that, in this project. The first book and kit were developed over a period of about five months.

**Q:** When you were growing up did you ever have any alien experiences?

**Schwa:** No, not unless you count all the books about UFOs I read in high school! Or high school itself...

**Q:** What are your opinions on the alien landing strip at Groom Lake?

**Schwa:** I don't know anything about it; I don't even know where Groom Lake is.

**Q:** You have a drawing where aliens shoot JFK. Do you think aliens had anything to do with the assassination?

**Schwa:** I'm just trying to emphasize the mystery in everything, in every subject.

**Q:** I've noticed that there are more comics than those in the book, by any chance is there going to be a Volume II? When?

**Schwa:** I just finished drawing the new book. It's back from the printer and I'll begin sending it out this week. It's called "Counter-Schwa".

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**Q:** What are your goals?

**Schwa:** I want to continue to build a company that produces and markets new and mysterious products. I want to include other people's ideas, kind of a think-tank for entertaining stuff to be produced in the future, today! It's going well.

**Q:** Do you have any hobbies?

**Schwa:** Drawing, packaging, going to the post office.

**Q:** Any last comments or quotes?

**Schwa:** SCHWA is whatever you say it is.

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## ANGELS AND ALIENS: Apparitions and UFOs

by Brian Boldman

As anyone who has studied the UFO phenomenon knows, there is a definite link between UFOs and religion. Much has already been written on this, so I'm intentionally skipping some of the more well known Biblical UFO's with the exception of several I find important

for various reasons. Many writers, such as Barry Downing (*The Bible & Flying Saucers*) have covered the UFO encounters in the Bible. Moses on Mount Sinai and the burning bush, the pillar of cloud or fire and the parting of the Red Sea, and the ascension of Elijah in a "chariot of fire" are thought by many to be evidence of UFO encounters in the Old Testament.

UFO type phenomena has been associated with Christianity since the beginning. The Star of Bethlehem that the wise men followed to find Jesus definitely exhibited UFO properties. Matthew 2:9 states "When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them till it came and stood over where the young child was." The "star" has been explained as a comet, a planetary conjunction, or a supernova, but was it actually an astronomical event? This "star" moved and then stopped, apparently able to mark a geographical position accurately enough for the wise men to find Jesus. This is an important point. If the "star" was an astronomical event, the only locations it could have pinpointed would be along a line to the horizon, in which case the wise men would have had to stumble across Jesus during their journey.

If we take this account literally, the possibilities are interesting. What if the star was an alien ship? Was the virgin birth the result of a Marian abduction? I think not. The most logical explanation for the virgin birth of Jesus was that this story was "borrowed" from mythology, which is loaded with virgin births, as well as the sons of gods motif. Horus, Ishtar, and Krishna are examples of virgin births before Jesus.

Paul was a major player in getting the early Christian church started, and wrote much of what became the New Testament. Paul supposedly became converted during a UFO type encounter while traveling to Damascus. This event is reported in Acts 9:1-7 and Acts 22:9, but they are somewhat contradictory accounts. The basic story is that Paul was a Jewish theologian that had been persecuting Christians. A light "brighter than the sun" hovered over Paul and his men, blinding Paul. A disembodied voice claiming to be Jesus chastised Paul for his persecution of Christians. Paul was "converted," and many of his subsequent epistles (letters) were included in the New Testament. Paul was so influential in establishing the early church that Christianity could just as well be called "Paulianity."

Of course, the account may be embellished or totally fictitious, as much of the Bible is. It is not a history book per se, although many accounts may have a basis in real events. It is important to keep stories like this in perspective and remain objective about them. Early Christians, such as Paul, had an agenda to promote the early church, and the New Testament stories of "miracles" were used to this means. It is important to remember that if this early church were around today, it would be considered a cult.

While these Biblical accounts are interesting, they provide little evidence that aliens actually interfered in the creation of Christianity. There may well have been some sort of non-human intelligence at work here, and many Biblical accounts do have remarkable similarities to contemporary UFO encounters. However, the only evidence we really have for Biblical aliens are the anecdotes in the Bible. The lesson for the UFO researcher is that the importance of a particular UFO account is proportional to the evidence

Even if there was no alien intervention in the birth of Jesus or the conversion of Paul, there is evidence of some sort of manipulation of Christianity in more recent times. Most of these

cases involve Marian Apparitions, and several have been accepted as genuine by the Vatican. These apparitions have occurred since the middle ages. I will cover a few with interesting associated phenomena.

An interesting event occurred during a Marian Apparition in Pontmain, France, on January 17, 1871. Six small children (children are often chosen as visionaries) saw a beautiful lady appear wearing a blue dress with gold stars. A white area about 5 feet tall and 25 feet long appeared under Mary. The children reported that it appeared an invisible hand was slowly writing in this space. Gold letters slowly spelled "mais," which means "but" in French. This lone word was visible for about ten minutes before the "hand" continues to write: "*But pray my children, God will hear you in a short time.*"

The message lingered for about ten minutes before something "erased" the message. If this actually happened, there seems to be some sort of supertechnology involved, possibly holographic in nature. The pause after the word "mais" was written is curious, almost like the intelligence involved had to go check a dictionary for a translation. I tend to believe this happened more or less as reported, even without photographic evidence. It is hard to imagine children in 1871 making up a story like this, and there are correlations to more modern BVM cases where we do have evidence.

One such case occurred in Zeitun, outside Cairo, from 1968 to 1969. These visions are thoroughly documented with photographs, and were witnessed by hundreds of thousands. These apparitions were different in nature to other BVM sightings, more amorphous with less spectacular "miracles." This may indicate a different technology was responsible for their generation. Another BVM case with remarkable evidence occurred at Garabandal, Spain, in the early 1960's. A host (communion wafer) was *filmed appearing* on the tongue of a visionary named Conchita.

The mother (pun intended) of all Virgin Mary apparitions has to be Fatima, Portugal. Beginning in 1915, and culminating with the "miracle of the sun," on October 13, 1917, several children had on-going visions on a monthly basis. Witnesses reported balls of light, buzzing sounds, clouds with rainbow colors, even skyquakes and underground explosions! The visionaries claimed they were given "secrets" by Mary, but even under the threat from priests and politicians of being boiled in oil, they stuck by their story and did not divulge any of the "secrets." Several of the "secrets" supposedly predicted the end of W.W.I, the start of W.W.II, and eventually, the fall of communism. There is supposedly still one outstanding "secret" that the Vatican will not reveal. Some think this may relate to extraterrestrials.

On September 13, 1917, witnesses reported seeing a ball of light. During this apparition, something like angel hair fell out of a clear sky. This substance dissolved as it landed. There were 30,000 present during this apparition. The Virgin had promised a miracle on October 13, so it is no surprise that 70,000 witnesses were present for the "dance of the sun." *Something* disk-shaped was seen to spin on its axis while rainbow colors emanated from it. The disk plunged toward the crowd displaying a falling leaf pattern, causing many to fall to their knees.

The disk was described by witnesses as "a plaque of dull silver," or "a shining disk of dull silver."



Dr. Almeida Garrett, a Professor of Natural Sciences at Coimbra University, wrote: "I veered to the magnet which seemed to be drawing all eyes and saw it as a disc with a clean-cut rim, luminous and shining, but which did not hurt the eyes. ...It looked like a glazed wheel made of mother of pearl. It could not be confused, either, with the sun seen through fog, because it was not opaque, diffused, or veiled. In Fatima it gave light and heat and appeared clear-cut with a well-defined rim...The sun, whirling wildly, seemed to loosen itself from the firmament and advance threateningly upon the earth..."<sup>i</sup>

Several photos of the Fatima UFO have been published in various books, as well as the Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano. An interesting correlation to the Fatima events occurred over Mexico City during a solar eclipse in 1991. Thousands witnessed silver disks emit "color bursts" that are remarkably similar to the events reported at Fatima. There were dozens of videos of the Mexico City disks taken by people unknown to each other and up to sixty miles apart.

It is interesting that the Vatican maintains one of the largest private telescopes in the world, and apparently is highly interested in UFO's. Supposedly, the Vatican has a UFO research division at the Vatican University's Alfonsian Academy. Priests from around the world (including Americans) have been hand-picked to undergo extensive training in witnessing to alien beings, according to Professor of Theology Dr. Rudolph Koller in Salzburg, Austria.

To say that all of these events are simply the result of collective mythical consciousness, or as misunderstood natural phenomenon is short sighted, especially in light of the BVM evidence. It is hard to accept that these manifestations originate in the mind of man, although the mind of man may provide a bridge for these type of experiences. The only thing we can say *for sure* about Biblical UFO phenomena is that many of the same things reported today were reported thousands of years ago.

The implications are that some intelligence(s) has been with us for a long time, covertly guiding our belief systems. Or possibly this intelligence arrived after the formation of Christianity, created by man from myths, but then "tapped into" the contemporary belief systems upon arrival to earth, occasionally using some sort of

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supertechnological devices to herd the masses. If this is the case, they must have landed in Rome. The lack of these type of events among Protestants is interesting. If these type of phenomena are strictly a process of the mind, we would expect them across the board. On the other hand, it is hard to imagine aliens adopting a non-ecumenical orthodoxy.

On thing is for sure, Michael Grosso was right about this: "*if* some UFOs come from outer space, and *if* there is evidence of their impacting on us via our religious symbols and personalities, then our whole view of the spiritual history of mankind is up for revision." <sup>ii</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The Evidence for Visions of the Virgin Mary, McClure, Kevin, p. 83

<sup>1</sup> UFO Mag. V.5, n.2, 1990, UFOs and the Miraculous, Michael Grosso, p.30

Email: apav8r@netunlimited.net

### ROSWELL:

#### The case that just keeps going, and going, and going, and....

In his Latest issue of SUN, the one and only Phil Klass reveals that in an upcoming book by Roswell expert Kevin Randle, Randle is expected to voice his disbelief in the account told by Roswell mortician Glen Dennis. Dennis claims to have seen the recovered alien bodies udergoing autopsy, and is probably the last living remotely "credible" witness to the Roswell event. Researcher Karl Pflock has also recently discounted the Dennis account. According to Klass, Randle will now focus his attention on Frank Kaufmann, a witness largely believed to be a fraud. Thanks to SUN, 404 "N" St. SW, Washington DC 20024.

Even as things seem to get worse and worse for Roswell, the focus event in the mythology surrounding the UFO phenomenon, excitment surrounding the Roswell 50th Anniversery festival, scheduled for this July, keeps building. Some reports estimate attendance exceeding 150,00 people....

**Note:** Because of space constraints, "Unusual Transmissions" (the letters column), and the Reviews Section were ommitted from this issue, but will return in the next issue. The next article in the series "False Miracles in the Sky" which will continue analyzing the Gulf Breeze UFO flap in the light of Military UFO hoaxes for psychological warfare purposes will also appear in the next issue.

Persons contributing articles to D.A. receive a one year free subscription, and those sending information, newsclippings, etc. receive a free copy of D.A. if the information is used, and sometimes a one year subscription (for the really big stuff). We appreciate your feedback, article submissions, and information. Special thanks go to Shari Van Schaick for assistance in editing . Thanks also go to Pat McCrone, Martin Kottmeyer, Larry McCort, Matt Graeber, Dave Coble, Jim Moseley, Mind Over Matter records/'zines, Greg Little, Brent Raynes, and a bunch of other people for various reasons.

Keep in touch.

Devil's Advocate

## The Contact Zone

In order to make D.A. a networking tool, we are offering classified ads in our contact zone. Researchers seeking information on projects are listed FREE at our discretion. This is also a sort of thank you list where we sometimes list miscellaneous sources of information, and just really cool people to contact at no charge. We also accept trades of ads with other publications at our discretion. Other magazines, companies, etc. who are advertising products must pay \$5 (payable to Tim Brigham) for up to 35 words. Display ads are \$15 for 1/8 page and \$25 for 1/4 page.

D.A. is looking for information on possible military attempts to hoax UFO sightings, and military use of, or experimentation with psychological warfare. All names will be held confidential if requested. Respond to D.A. directly. Thanks.

Alternate Perceptions: Journal of UFOs, history, native spirituality, and paranormal phenomena. Edited by Brent Raynes and Dr. Greg Little. Published quarterly. \$12 for a one year subscription. Highly recommended by D.A. Write: Alternate Perceptions, Box 9972, Memphis, TN 38190.

Saucer Smear is the longest running UFO publication, and one of the best. Jim Moseley's inside look at ufology (or is that ufoology) is, as advertised, "shockingly close to the truth. Contact Jim Mosley at Box 1709, Key West, FL 33041. Send \$1 for a sample issue.

MOFO at box 2704, Reno, NV 89505 offers an unbelievable service. They actually distribute banned and other no longer available recordings FOR FREE! All you have to do is send tapes and postage and they will be copied and returned to you. Some hilarious comedy stuff, great music, and interesting items such as an actual tape of Jim Jones' final sermon are found throughout their catalog. Send an SASE (and we suggest a donation of a few stamps, etc. to help out, as this is all non profit and done for free) to receive the catalog and information.

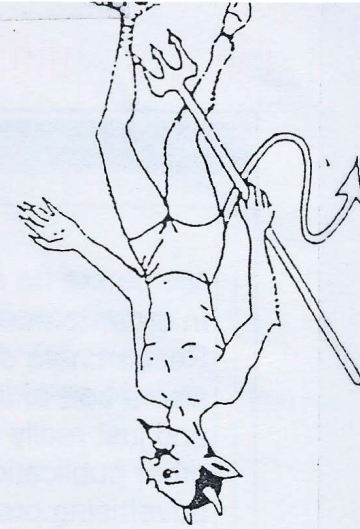
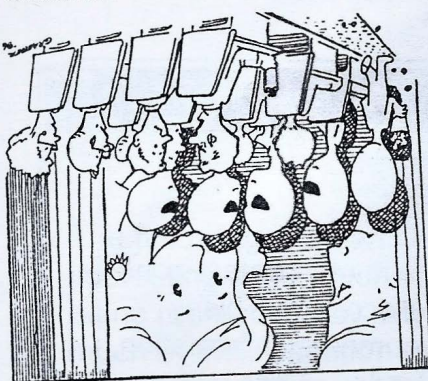
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Among other things in the next issue: More mysterious sonic booms over Gulf Breeze!





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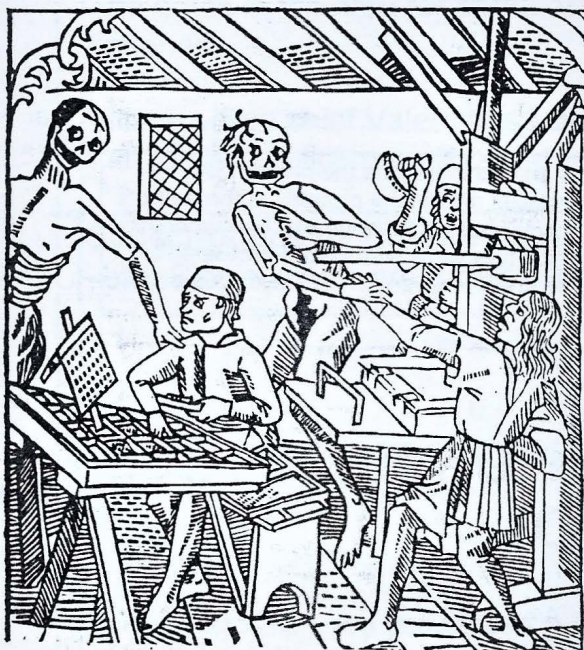


FIGURE 9.2 The earliest known picture of a printing press, dating from 1499. The typesetter is reading copy on the left, the press and the pressman are on the right. The large figures in the rear symbolize the constant presence of death, a recurring theme in medieval art.

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